

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A positioning system for a moveable platform comprising:
  - an RF reader for receiving coded data from at least one RF tag positioned at a known location;
  - at least one optical device for capturing an image of a visual cue positioned at a known location;
  - means for decoding said encoded data;
  - means for processing said captured image to determine the position of said visual cue; and
  - means for combining said decoded data and said detected visual cue to calculate a position of said moveable platform.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said RF reader and said optical device are affixed to a moveable platform.
3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said moveable platform is an elevator.
4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said image is a one dimensional image.
5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said image is a two dimensional image.
6. The apparatus of claim 1 additionally comprising a memory device in which is stored position information of each of said at least one RF tag and each of said at least one visual markers.
7. The apparatus of claim 1 additionally comprising an illumination source.
8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said illumination source comprises an infrared light source and said optical device is an infrared camera.
9. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said illumination source comprises an ultraviolet light source and said optical device is an ultraviolet camera.
10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said visual cue is a horizontal line.

11. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said means for processing said captured image comprises means for performing sub-pixel image processing.
12. A method for determining position comprising the steps of:
  - providing a plurality of RF tags at fixed positions;
  - providing a plurality of visual markers at fixed positions;
  - affixing an RF reader to a moveable platform;
  - affixing an optical device to said moveable platform;
  - using said RF reader to receive coded information from one of said plurality of RF tags;
  - imaging at least one of said plurality of visual markers with said optical device to produce an image;
  - performing image processing on said image to identify a position of a visual cue in said image; and
  - combining said position of said visual cue with said coded information to determine a location of said moveable platform.
13. The method of claim 12 wherein said moveable platform is an elevator.
14. The method of claim 12 wherein said performing said image processing comprises performing sub-pixel image processing.
15. The method of claim 12 wherein imaging said at least one of said plurality of visual markers comprises capturing a one dimensional image.
16. The method of claim 12 wherein imaging said at least one of said plurality of visual markers comprises capturing a two dimensional image.
17. The method of claim 12 comprising the steps of:
  - storing in a memory device said fixed positions of said plurality of visual markers;
  - retrieving at least one of said fixed positions of said plurality of visual markers using said received coded information; and
  - comparing said retrieved at least one of said fixed positions to said position of said visual cue to determine said location of said moveable platform.